

means capable of automatically detecting beats per minute of the input audio signal or a beat period of the input audio signal, changing said beats per minute or said beat period by computing the detected beats per minute or the detected beat period with a magnification designated by the magnification designating means, and changing the tempo of the input audio signal in accordance with the changed beats per minute or the changed beat period.

9. (Amended) An audio signal processing apparatus which changes the tempo of an input audio signal, said apparatus comprising:

a magnification designating device which designates a plurality of different magnifications, said different magnifications being $1/n$ ^{and} n , wherein n is an integer;

a device which automatically detects beats per minute of the input audio signal or a beat period of the input audio signal, changes said beats per minute or said beat period by computing the detected beats per minute or the detected beat period with a magnification designated by the magnification designating device, and changes the tempo of the input audio signal in accordance with the changed beats per minute or the changed beat period.

Please add the new claims 9-10 as follows:

9. An audio signal as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of different magnifications include magnification designations of $1/4$, 2, and 4.